020.978
LIBMSUD
NO. 11

Montana State Library
3 0864 1006 6653 9

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News UPDATE

December 1989 Update No. 11

The State Library Commission, meeting December 13 in Helena, accepted the Advisory Council's recommendations regarding FY 1991 LSCA grant ideas. The six proposed projects include: WLN founder's fee, $15,000; ICLIS consortium fee, $15,000; RECON projects, $30,000; trustee training and directors' meetings, $22,000; reference institute, $22,000, and 12 Lasercats, $36,000.

New Commission officers elected December 13 are: Mary Doggett, Chair, and Abe Abramson, Vice Chair. The next Commission meeting will be February 14 in Helena. Other 1990 meeting dates are: May 2; June 20; August 22; October 17, and December 12.

Application forms for LSCA Title II funds and the ALA-accredited degree training program funds are available. The deadlines are March 26 for the training program funds and early April for the Title II monies. The training program funds will enable a Montana resident to attend an ALA-accredited program full-time, returning to Montana to work in a public or institutional library. Contact Sheila Cates at the State Library, 444-5352.

The Geographic Information System conference held December 6 and 7 in Billings was an unqualified success. So reports Jon Sesso, director of the State Library's Natural Resource Information System, which co-sponsored the event. Sesso said 192 people registered for the conference, which covered general and technical issues of GIS, an integrated data base containing information abut geographic features plus computer hardware and software and the people to analyze the data. A second GIS conference will be held in the fall of 1990 in Missoula that will have concurrent general and technical sessions for those with varying levels of familiarity with GIS.

The new director of the Western Library Network is Ron Miller. Miller began his job December 1 at the WLN headquarters at the Washington State Library in Olympia. He was formerly executive director of the Cooperative Library Agency for Systems and Service (CLASS) in San Jose, Calif. CLASS is a non-profit government agency that provides libraries with access to databases, database management, discount services, consulting and training. Miller said he will focus on WLN's transition from a public non-profit to a private non-profit, becoming more familiar with WLN's staff and system and learning about its customers' needs through on-site visits and market study examination.

"Confidentiality and Coping with Law Enforcement Inquiries: Guidelines for the Library Administrator" is a new ALA Intellectual Freedom Office publication the State Library recently received. It includes ways to familiarize library staff with the issue and specific methods of dealing with visits by law enforcement personnel. For a copy, contact Cathy Siegner at 444-5353.

The Glasgow City-County Library's recent initiative to get overdue books returned also helped the local food bank. According to Director Jim Jondrow, library patrons could bring in 99 cents worth of food (typically two cans) and overdue fines on book or videos would be waived. "We had boxes full. We had people bringing in cans just to donate to the food bank," he said. The Valley County Food bank was the recipient of the patrons' donations. Jondrow said the library would do it again during National Library Week.

Offline, a special interest group of the Montana Library Association, will hold its second annual winter retreat February 24 & 25 at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort. Frank Odasz, professor of computer education at Western Montana College and developer of the Big Sky Telegraph bulletin board system, will demonstrate telecommunications equipment, talk about its applications to rural economic development and discuss teaching on-line skills to K-12 children. Cost is $20 for registration before February 1 and $25 after that. A detailed agenda with information on accommodations is available from Raelen Williard, Offline chair, Information Now, 1027 12th Ave., Helena, MT 59601, 443-0706.

The deadline is January 15, 1990, for the NCLIS Annual Recognition Awards. NCLIS, the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, gives the awards to acknowledge the best initiative taken by an individual and nongovernmental, nonlibrary organization in improving and promoting the nation's library and information services in the previous calendar year. One award is given to an individual and one to an institution. Nominations are accepted from libraries and information service groups. For a nomination form, contact Cathy Siegner at 444-5353.

Dave Stephen's name was incorrectly spelled in the November Montana State Library Newsletter. It's actually Dave Stephen. Sorry, Dave. Stephen, of Bozeman, was recently appointed to represent the Broad Valleys Federation on the Advisory Council.

The following meetings or retreats are scheduled for JANUARY:

6-11	American Library Association mid-winter meeting, Chicago
10-11	Western Library Network directors retreat, West Coast SeaTac Hotel (at the Seattle-Tacoma Airport)
21-28	National Book Week (sponsored by the Library of Congress' Center for the Book and the National Book Foundation)

Merry Christmas!

Montana State Library
1515 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

Nonprofit Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #30
Helena, MT 59620